

U.S.S.N. 10/677,155

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****DEC 29 2006****REMARKS**

Thorough examination and careful review of the application by the Examiner is noted and appreciated.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-5, 9-12, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are rejected.

Claims 6-8, 13-15 and 18 are objected to.

The indication by the Examiner that Claims 6-8, 13-15 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is acknowledged and appreciated.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-5, 9-12, 16-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swart '719.

Independent Claims 1, 9 and 16 have been amended to further recite the limitations contained in the dependent Claims 6, 13 and 18, respectively which the Examiner has indicated would be

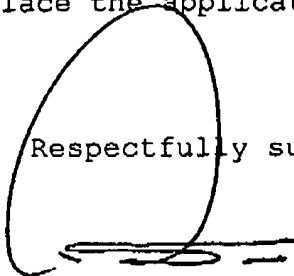
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allowable if rewritten into independent form. The newly amended independent Claim 1,9 and 16 are therefore equivalent to dependent Claims 6,13, and 18 being written into independent form to recite all the limitations contained in the base claims 1,9 and 16. A reconsideration for allowance for the newly amended independent Claims 1,9,16 and their dependent Claims 2-5,10-12,17 and 19-20 is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending Claims, i.e. Claims 1-5,7-12,14-17 and 19-20 are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is respectfully solicited.

In the event that the present invention as claimed is not in condition for allowance for any reason, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at his Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office at (248) 540-4040 such that necessary action may be taken to place the application in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted


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